

Mr. Tarr, of Worcester, had no intention of impugning the motives of the gentleman, but he contended for what was apparent.

Mr. Hammond moved an amendment that Salisbury shall be the county seat of Wicomico county, which was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved an amendment that the question shall be submitted to all the voters of Somerset and Worcester counties, instead of to those only residing within the limits of the proposed new county.

Mr. Page said some of the friends of this measure, who had run on the ticket for this Convention, had come here with this object specially in view, but they had managed carefully to abstain from any discussion on the subject before the people. His colleague (Mr. Rider) had charged him with being recreant to the interests of the people of Somerset county, and that he was acting in defiance of the wishes of his constituents, because he (Mr. P.) was pursuing a course which he deemed to be right and proper. His colleague was not here representing Wicomico, but Somerset, and he (Mr. P.) believed that the people of Somerset were largely opposed to this matter which his colleague was so earnest an advocate of.

The friends of the measure had made boasts that they had secured eighty-five votes for it, and this in advance of any information or discussion on the subject. There were no reasons or public policy or justice which demanded the formation of this new county. It was contrary to all the principles of right and justice that all the people of the two counties concerned should not have an opportunity to express their choice on this question. This had been the course taken in reference to the formation of Carroll and Howard counties. Petition after petition had come up in favor of forming those counties, and no opposition whatever had been made. In reply to the argument that the formation of the new county would add to the wealth and prosperity of the county, Mr. P. contended that such would not be the case. It was asserted that the counties were too large, that it was too inconvenient for the people in passing to and fro, and that if it was divided up it would prosper.